

REMARKS

In this continuing application, claims 1, 3 and 5 have been amended and claim 6 is unchanged. There are four claims pending, 1, 3, 5 and 6, which are presented here for the Examiner's consideration.

Claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,966,496 to Takimoto (*Takimoto*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,379,655 to Koyabu et al. (*Koyabu*).

Applicants respectfully disagree.

In the Advisory Action dated February 3 2009 the Examiner asserts that,

“Takimoto is capable of recording both NTSC- and PAL-
system video signals (col. 11, lines 61-63).”

However, this statement is not completely accurate. *Takimoto* actually states that VTRs are known which can record both NTSC- and PAL-encoded video signals. But, at column 12, lines 16, 17 *Takimoto* actually states that with respect to his fourth embodiment,

“For this reason there is provided a VTR dedicated to the NTSC
system or* the PAL system.”

**emphasis added*

Thus, *Takimoto* describes that, for the reasons disclosed in his preceding paragraph, his recorder can only record one standard signal, i.e. NTSC or PAL, but not both. Furthermore, *Takimoto* makes no mention, suggestion or desire that his VTR consecutively record signals having different encoding standards (NTSC/PAL), as Applicants disclose.

The Examiner continues in the Advisory Action stating that,

“Therefore, by Takimoto being able to record both systems
it is able to record multiple programs without explicitly
disclosing this...”

Again, the Examiner's statement is not completely accurate. Specifically, *Takimoto* is not able to record both systems, and states that his recorder records either NTSC or PAL but is not capable of recording both NTSC and PAL encoding standards as the Examiner asserts. Indeed, *Takimoto* states at column 12, line 16, that the recorder is only able to record signals having a single encoding standard i.e. NTSC or PAL.

The Examiner admits that *Takimoto* is deficient and looks to *Koyabu* to provide the multiple programs on the same recording medium as Applicants' recite.

In this regard, the *Koyabu* reference discloses a method and apparatus for storing program information derived from EPG data. Deriving the EPG information from the broadcast signal is a major concern. According to the EPG data, a user specific history concerning recording, reproduction and viewing of programs is made. The history data are renewed every time a program is recorded or reproduced (col.6, lines 27-35). The Examiner points to column 7, line 66- column 8, line 5 where *Koyabu* describes a method step to renew the history stored in the RAM, namely to add the recording starting time and the recording finishing time. *Koyabu* describes finalizing the entries of the current recording in the history information when a recording is finished.

However, *Koyabu* does not describe, nor make any suggestion, that the recoding means automatically finalizes a current recording of a program on the medium. Nor does *Koyabu* describe, or make any suggestion, of detecting a change in the video encoding standard, and in response, initiate a new recording. Furthermore, *Koyabu* is silent regarding changes of video standard and as such, detection of these different video formats is not addressed by *Koyabu*.

Since the references, singly and in combination, fail to show, describe or suggest applicants' claim 1 feature of,

“automatically finalizing a current recording of a program on the medium if when a change in video standard is detected; and recording the digital stream as a new recording of a program when said change is detected.”

Applicants' respectfully submit that claim 1 is not rendered obvious by the Examiners combination of *Takimoto* in view of *Koyabu* and is patentable over the references of record. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicants' claims 3 and 5 also recite detection of changes to the input video encoding standard. These detected standards changes cause an automated finalization of a current recording and the initiation of a new record. These recited features are similar to the feature recited in claim 1 and therefore the same discussions apply.

Since the references, singly or in combination fail to show, disclose or suggest applicants' claims 3 and 5 feature of,

“detecting a change in the video standard of the video signal; automatically finalizing a current recording of a program on

the medium when a change in video standard is detected; and
recording the digital stream as a new recording of a program
when the change is detected.”

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3 and 5 are not rendered obvious by *Takimoto* in view of *Koyabu*, and are patentable over the references of record. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are respectfully requested.

Claim 6 depends from claim 5 and is, for the same reasons not obvious and is patentable over the references of record. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that all of the objections set forth in the Advisory Action have been fully met and favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' attorney in order to overcome any additional objections that the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 07-0832 therefor.

Respectfully submitted
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